Points of Pride

At the University of West Georgia, we are in the business of transforming lives and we are focused on success. With so many advancements at UWG, our campus is constantly brimming with excitement. Through the Points of Pride we celebrate these achievements and examine our success through the four major Strategic Imperatives of our Strategic Plan – Student Success, Academic Success, Partnership Success and Operational Success. Congratulations to all those who have strived for excellence and have achieved it.

Student Success

The University of West Georgia football team made history as the first Division II team at UWG to gain the No. 1 spot in the nation.

This season, UWG Debate is one of the top 10 teams in the nation and is on track to qualify for the National Debate Tournament for the 44th time in the last 45 years, the sixth best streak in the nation.

UWG student and cancer survivor Helena Exeni was awarded the National Children’s Cancer Society Beyond the Cure Ambassador Scholarship. Only 40 scholarships are awarded nationwide.

Academic Success

Richards College of Business faculty Charles Hodges and Brad Prince received two teaching awards for the WebMBA. Charles was voted Outstanding Faculty Member by students in cohorts 47 and 43, and Brad was voted Outstanding Faculty Member by students in cohorts 44 and 48. Charles and Brad won four of the seven awards to faculty from six WebMBA schools.
UWG Psychology faculty Dr. Tuğçe Kurtiș was invited to present a weeklong seminar on “Culture, Psychology, and Decolonial Feminisms” at the University of Costa Rica. During her visit, Dr. Kurtiș also presented two conference papers at the University of Costa Rica School of Psychology in San Jose and in San Ramon.

UWG Political Science faculty Dr. Sooho Lee and UWG alumnus Ryan Fleming’s paper, “Collaborative Disaster Management in Local Governments: Perception, Performance, and Challenges,” was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Emergency Management.

Richards College of Business faculty David Nickell’s paper, “The Intersection of Social Media and Sponsorship-Linked Marketing: A Longitudinal Study of Brand Attitudes and Electronic Word of Mouth,” was accepted for presentation at the American Marketing Association Winter Conference. The paper was also selected for inclusion in a special session at the conference titled, “Social Media’s Evolving Role in Sports Marketing and Athlete Endorsement.”

Kim Holder, director of the Center for Economic Education, received first place in the 2015 Economist Educators Best in Class competition, which awards creative and engaging teaching techniques.

Associate Professor of Marketing Jack Wei’s article, “Effects of Relationship Benefits and Relationship Proneness on Relationship Outcomes: A Three-Country Comparison,” was published in the Journal of Strategic Marketing.

Associate Professor of Business Education, Susan Webb’s article titled, “Uga the Bulldog, Handsome Dan, and Why University Spirit Matters,” has been published in The Conversation, one of Australia’s largest independent news and commentary sites.

Isabel Maggiano, limited term instructor and Biology and Forensic Anthropology Laboratory (BAFAL) assistant director, submitted an image from her manuscript, “Drifting Diaphyses: Asymmetry in Diametric Growth and Adaptation Along the Humeral and Femoral Length,” for publication. The manuscript, co-authored by Dr. Corey Maggiano, UWG assistant professor of anthropology and BAFAL director, was featured as the cover for the international journal, The Anatomical Record.

Partnership Success

The A Day to Go West campaign raised more than $242,463 with donations from faculty, staff, Carrollton businesses, Newnan, Bowdon, the annual Scholarship Gala, and the new #OneWest fundraising events.

Director of the Center for Economic Education Kim Holder’s successful “Fed Day” at UWG gained the attention of Albany State University School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) who
plans to duplicate the idea. Fed Day welcomes colleagues from the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta, who has promised a private tour for UWG’s Economics club and some CEE teachers.

The College of Social Sciences held its third annual All-College Service Day in collaboration with the Community Foundation of West Georgia. The team of 100 students, staff, and faculty fanned out across Carrollton, gifting nearly 300 hours of service to nonprofit organizations across the Carroll Community.

Brendan Bowen, UWG assistant vice president of Campus Planning and Facilities, Hank Houser, principal of Houser Walker Architecture, and Cleatus Phillips, city manager for the City of Newnan presented “An Unconventional Partnership Transforms a Vacant Hospital Into a Satellite Campus,” at the Society for College and University Planning Southern Regional Conference in Fort Worth, Texas.

Operational Success

The University of West Georgia and President Dr. Kyle Marrero were honored as Institution and President of the Year by University System of Georgia Chancellor Hank Huckaby at the annual Chancellor’s Service Excellence Awards. These awards recognize institutional and presidential commitment to excellence as represented by the Engage West! family of initiatives, which foster a culture of high achievement and evidence-based leadership and through collaboration, professional development, strategic planning, data-informed decision making, assessment, continual improvement, and goal-aligned prioritization of resources at all levels.

President Marrero also accepted the Leadership Development and Diversity Award in Excellence and Innovation from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities at the AASCU annual conference in Austin, Texas. This award also recognizes the innovative and impactful achievements of Engage West!

UWG Newnan surpassed the $1 million mark in fundraising in October.

The UWG Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment’s 2015-16 Fact Book won second place at the 2015 Southern Association for Institutional Research Conference. The mini fact book, Just the Facts, won third place.

Share your own story and tell us your own Point of Pride. For more information visit www.westga.edu/ucm/1792.php.